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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/776,213	02/12/2004	Graham P. Belfield	3764-152	2071
23117	7590	11/26/2004	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 1100 N GLEBE ROAD 8TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22201-4714			LEFFERS JR, GERALD G	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		1636		

DATE MAILED: 11/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/776,213	BELFIELD ET AL.
	Examiner Gerald G Leffers Jr., PhD	Art Unit 1636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 February 2004.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-29 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-29 are pending in the instant application and are subject to the following restriction requirement.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-29 are drawn to a yeast promoter, expression vectors, host cells and methods of expressing a protein featuring a promoter comprising at least 17 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 1, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.
- II. Claims 1-29 are drawn to a yeast promoter, expression vectors, host cells and methods of expressing a protein featuring a promoter comprising at least 17 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 2, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.
- III. Claims 1-12, 18-21, 24-25 and 29 are drawn to a yeast promoter, expression vectors, host cells and methods of expressing a protein featuring a promoter comprising at least 17 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 3, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.
- IV. Claims 1-29 are drawn to a yeast promoter, expression vectors, host cells and methods of expressing a protein featuring a promoter comprising at least 17 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 4, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions of Groups I-IV are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions have different modes of operation, functions and effects due to the unique structural and functional characteristics for each promoter element. For example, the specification teaches that each of the specific sequences represented by SEQ ID NOS: 1-4 are derived from a distinct gene (e.g. page 8, lines 7-9):

The isolated and purified promoter polynucleotides of the invention are shown in SEQ ID NO:1 (the YLR110C promoter), SEQ ID NO:2 (the YMR251WA promoter), SEQ ID NO:3 (the YMR107W promoter), and SEQ ID NO:4 (the ZEOI promoter).

Thus, one of the specifically recited promoter sequences of one group will not make obvious any of the structurally and functionally distinct promoter sequences obtained from one of the other groups. Therefore, the inventions of the different groups are capable of supporting separate patents. This is not a species election requirement.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for any one of the groups is not required for any of the other groups (e.g. the sequence search of the nucleic acid databases would not be coextensive for any of SEQ ID NOS: 1-4), restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Conclusion

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

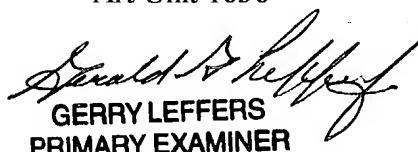
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gerald G Leffers Jr., PhD whose telephone number is (571) 272-0772. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Remy Yucel can be reached on (571) 272-0781. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Gerald G Leffers Jr., PhD
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1636

ggl


GERRY LEFFERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER